

## Message Text

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46

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 /011 R

66603

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O: R. ELTZ

APPROVED BY: S/S-O: R. ELTZ

S/S:W. LUERS

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O 151706Z JAN 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 008570

EXDIS TOSEC 104

FOLL REPEAT TEHRAN 0327 ACTION SECSTATE INFO NEW DELHI LONDON  
15 J\*NUARY QUOTE

S E C R E T TEHRAN 0327

EXDIS

DEPT PASS SECDEF, CINCPAC, USCINCEUR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, IR

SUBJECT: INDIAN OCEAN TASK GROUP

REF: STATE 004768

1. WE WONDER HOW MUCH MORE CONFUSION WITHIN USG ON INDIAN  
OCEAN OPERATION CAN BE TOLERATED WITHOUT DOING SERIOUS  
DAMAGE TO OUR RELATIONS WITH IRAN. UNLESS ASPECTS OF THIS  
OPERATION THAT AFFECT IRAN ARE QUICKLY AND EFFECTIVLY  
BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL OF OFFICIALS SENSITIVE TO USG-GOI  
RELATIONSHIP, WE FEAR WE RUN RISK OF A REAL FOUW-UP.  
HISTORY OF THIS EXERCISE IS MOST DEPRESSING AND WE DEPLORE  
FACT THAT OUR SEVERAL PLEAS FOR INFORMATION ON TASK GROUP  
SECRET

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OPERATIONS HAVE GENERALLY BEEN PUT OFF IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

2. LATEST EXAMPLE OF NON-COORDINATION COULD HAVE BEEN  
VERY EMBARRASSING TO US. REFTEL SUGGESTED WE INFORM

GOI THAT USAF COMMUNICATIONS UNIT WAS BEING WITHDRAWN FROM BANDAR ABBAS. WE LATER LEARNED FROM DOD CHANNELS THAT NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS UNIT OF ROUGHLY SAME SIZE AND MISSION IS PLANNED AS REPLACEMENT. OWING TO GOOD JUDGMENT, OR IF YOU PREFER, GOOD FORTUNE, WE DECIDED TO DEWAY IN PASSING REFTEL NEWS TO GOI. IF WE HAD DONE SO, WE WOULD HAVE APPEARED EITHER FOOLISH OR DECEIVING.

3. WHY IS IT SO DIFFICULT TO GET A HANDLE ON THIS OPERATION? WE KNOW THAT DOD PLANNING HAS FREQUENTLY BEEN LAID OUT IN ADVANCE WITHOUT COMMUNICATION TO US AS FYI OR FOR GOI. THIS INDICATES A LACK OF TRUST OR CONFIDENCE WHICH IS NOT SUPPORTED BY PAST PERFORMANCE. THERE HAVE BEEN NO LEAKS HERE. FURTHER, THERE NEED BE NO SERIOUS RISK OF PROBLEMS WITH GOI IF WE DEAL ACCURATELY AND OPENLY WITH IRANIANS AND GIVE SIGNS THAT THERE IS INTELLIGENT PLANNING AND RATIONALE BEHIND OPERATION.  
HELMS  
NQUOTE RUSH

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 27 JUL 1999  
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